INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/JP2004/005823

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H05B41/292

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ \text{IPC 7} & \text{H05B} \end{array}$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 828 177 A (ODA GOICHI ET AL) 27 October 1998 (1998-10-27)	1,2
Y	column 3, line 15 - column 4, line 39; figures 1,10-12,14 column 8, line 12 - column 10, line 20 column 11, line 59 - column 12, line 67	3,4,7,8,
Y	EP 1 185 149 A (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP) 6 March 2002 (2002-03-06) abstract; figures 1-3,5-8 paragraph '0011! - paragraph '0041! paragraph '0054!	3,10
Y	US 6 002 215 A (TODA ATSUSHI ET AL) 14 December 1999 (1999-12-14) column 3, line 35 - column 6, line 38; figures 1-4	4,7,8

Special categories of cited documents: A¹ document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention		
 "E° earlier document but published on or after the International filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed 	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report		
1 September 2004	04/10/2004		
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Ferla, M		

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